

SHORT COMMUNICATION

***Bertya ingramii* (Euphorbiaceae), a new species from New South Wales**

***Bertya ingramii* T. James, sp. nov.**

B. oleifoliae affinis sed differt foliis brevioribus marginibus minus recurvatis, bracteis paucioribus (modo 6 vel 7), segmentis perianthii florum femineorum parvioribus subter fructum non accrescentibus atque nonnisi dimidio inferiore connatis.

HOLOTYPE: NEW SOUTH WALES: Northern Tablelands: Top of Dangar's [Dangar] Falls, southeast of Armidale, J.B. Williams K29, i.1964 (NSW). ISOTYPE: NE.

Slender to rounded shrub to 2.5 m high with a short, grey, stellate tomentum, lower stems glabrescent. Leaves alternate, linear to narrow-ob lanceolate or narrow-elliptic, 10–35 mm long, 1–4 mm wide; upper surface at first with sparse stellate hairs, becoming scabrous; lower surface whitish grey to pale yellowish, densely stellate-tomentose, midrib prominent, apex obtuse to acute, margins recurved; petioles 1–3 mm long. Flowers axillary, solitary on short, thick peduncles to 1 mm long. Bracts 6 or 7; outer bracts 3 or 4, unequal, 1.5–3 mm long, lanceolate, thick, grey-tomentose; inner bracts to 2 mm long, ovate-triangular, thin-textured, sparsely tomentose to glabrous. Male perianth segments to 3 mm long, oblong-elliptic, imbricate, brown, glabrous; staminal column 4–5 mm long. Female perianth segments connate below the middle, lobes 2–3 mm long, oblong-ovate, brown, glabrous, often recurved. Ovary densely stellate-tomentose, far exceeding the perianth segments; styles 3, each deeply 3-fid. Capsule ovoid, 8–10 mm long, tomentose with both long and short stellate hairs becoming sparser with age. Seeds c. 6 mm long, glossy, reddish brown; caruncle broad-conical, apex shortly acuminate, persistent. Flowering period: September to December.

DISTRIBUTION: Known only from the Armidale area, New South Wales.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED: NEW SOUTH WALES: Northern Tablelands: Gara River, via Armidale, K. Ingram NSW 193871, 10.1936; Dangar's [Dangar] Falls, near Armidale, J. Williams G60, 1.1962; Dangar Falls, Armidale, E. McBarron 20294, 9.1971. All specimens in NSW.

HABITAT: In scrub or low forest at the edge of the gorge above Dangar Falls with *Leptospermum brevipes* and *Allocasuarina luehmannii*. The collection from Gara River lacks habitat information.

The species is named in honour of Mr C. Keith Ingram of Mt Tomah, New South Wales, who has provided many valuable collections from this State over the years. His 1936 specimen is the earliest collection of this species at NSW.

B. ingramii resembles *B. oleifolia* in leaf shape and overall tomentum but differs from that in its smaller leaves with less markedly recurved margins and in its smaller female perianth segments which do not enlarge under the fruit and which are distinctly connate below the middle.

B. ingramii was treated as *Bertya* sp. C by Jacobs and Pickard in 'Plants of New South Wales' 1981: 115.

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